

SAUCER CENTRAL U.S.A.

By Jerome Clark

Perhaps the single most distinguishing feature of the UFO phenomenon in recent years has been the growing number of occupant or "ufonaut" encounters. These confrontations involve a wide range of experiences, from brief glimpses of humanoid figures to reported abductions (in which ufonauts take witnesses aboard their craft and subject them to physical examinations), to alleged contacts (cases which concern extensive communication between human and alien intelligences and which may take place over a number of years).

Back in the early days of UFO research only a handful of pioneering ufologists took even the first type of occupant report—glimpses of humanoids—seriously. Incidents of the second type, kidnappings, were virtually unknown (though they probably would have been viewed with suspicion if they had been reported), and the third type, the contacts, were flatly rejected as impossible. Since the ranks of the contactees seemed overloaded with apparent frauds, the skepticism may have been warranted, at least up to a point. Nonetheless it should be clear by now, in my opinion, that some honest, sane people did have genuine contact experiences and should have been listened to more carefully.

Since those early days the majority of ufologists have come to take the first two types for granted, and now a new generation of investigators is arguing that the time has come to accept at least some contactees as genuine. The sheer quantity of ufonaut cases of all varieties—and their increasingly frequent occurrence—suggests that the truth behind the UFO mystery, whatever it might be, is far more strange and complex than anyone suspected.

Let's review some recent examples of the three basic types of occupant encounters, starting with the first kind:

On May 3, 1975, at about 9:15 p.m.,

Alois Olenick was driving west on Mogford Road south of San Antonio, Tex., when he spotted an amber-colored light shooting up from a grove of trees about 900 yards away. The object flew toward Olenick's pickup truck "at a terrific rate of speed, losing altitude" and changing color to a "bright, cherry red."

Olenick told investigator Gary Graber, who published the story in the February 1976 *Skylook*, "When the craft got directly over the top of my pickup my lights went completely out and my engine died. And as I was trying to get out of the pickup, I thought it was a chopper passing on top of me, at first, it happened so quick. Then when it hovered over the top of me, I knew it was no chopper. I thought to myself, 'That's got to be a UFO.'"

The object, which was tipping toward the observer at a 40-degree slant, was disc-shaped with a globular midsection. The top part of this section was transparent and inside it sat two beings, their features plainly visible because of a diffuse reddish light which illuminated the interior.

"They appeared to be just as interested in me as I was in them," Olenick said. "One of the occupants, the one farthest from me, appeared to be the pilot and had his hands on what looked like controls. He was looking up and away from me. The other occupant looked directly at me, a side view right at my windshield, and appeared to be observing me.

"I got a good look at both of them. They weren't human beings like we see here... They couldn't have been big men, probably not over five feet tall. They were bald, with long prominent ears, and a long nose. Their eyes did not appear very plainly—they just looked like slits." The skin "looked sort of like sharkskin, sort of a gray color." It was tight and firm, without wrinkles.

The beings seemed to have a wiry, firm build, but Olenick said that was only his impression, since he saw only the upper portions of their bodies.

After 10 or 20 seconds the UFO abruptly departed.

"There was no motor noise during the time it was over my truck, just a whirring [shriek] of wind," he reported. "It was very loud. It sounded to me like a cyclone and I've been in a lot of storms. I did not hear any engines whatsoever, no whir as from engines.

"It took off straight up. There was a terrific thrust that buffeted my pickup and then it vanished almost instantly... it was just like turning off a light bulb. It happened instantly."

While the UFO had been hovering over his vehicle, Olenick noticed a "very severe odor, like burning copper or electrical wiring." The odor lingered for some time after the UFO had gone. The witness suffered from eye strain caused by the object's intense red light, and when Graber, who believed Olenick to be sincere, interviewed him on August 22nd, the man was still wearing dark glasses to protect his eyes and prevent headaches.

In an earlier column (UFO REPORT, April 1976) I mentioned briefly an occupant sighting from the Alton, Ill., area. At the time I had few details to relate and my information had it that the witnesses were a "farm couple." That apparently is not the case. According to ufologist David Schroth, who investigated the incident for the Mutual UFO Network and whose account appears in the January 1976 *Skylook*, there was only one observer and she did not live on a farm but in a subdivision of the city.

Her story is that she awoke around 1:30 a.m. on Oct. 13, 1975, and, unable

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equivalent to deity itself."

It may be that the message of the UFO in the sky is a call to Mankind to return to that original state of wholeness, that sense of oneness with the Cosmos. Surely the view that maintains that all life is one and each single cell maintains a signal link-up with every other cell, is becoming increasingly popular. Man is reawakening to the necessity of becoming truly and totally integrated with his environment. Contemporary men and women by the hundreds of thousands are growing vitally interested in meditative practices which

will permit them to regain even fleetingly that state of union for which Mankind apparently feels so much nostalgia. Individuals who just a few short years ago were contented with their niches in the business world are now overtly seeking separate realities in which they might regain their mystical communion with Nature.

I believe that it is an integral part of the UFO phenomenon to lead us to a clearer understanding of our true role in the cosmic scheme of things and to direct us to a level of awareness whereby we might more readily attain that "state

of oneness and self-sufficiency that is equivalent to deity itself." I am not saying that we may become God, but that we may become as gods under God.

But we must learn to sort out the meaningful clues from the preposterous ones in what I have come to term the Reality Game, that bizarre kind of contest which we are playing with the UFO phenomenon. As I've stated many times before, the rules of the Reality Game may be confusing, extremely flexible, and difficult to define, but play Man must—for it is the only game in the Universe! ★

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to get back to sleep, lay in bed thinking about the previous day. Her husband had left for work two hours earlier. At two a.m., the family's Irish sheep dog began barking in a "vicious" tone she had never heard before. Alarmed, she got out of bed and looked out the bedroom window, which is located on the second story of the house and faces north toward a wooded area 250 feet away. She saw a human-like being dashing from near the rear of the house to the wooded area. She was so perplexed by the sight that at first she thought of a silver wolf running on two legs—a phenomenon even more improbable than a ufonaut.

"I was trying to rationalize," she said, "when 'it' turned and looked directly at me—or toward the back of the house, I should say. It was definitely the figure of a man. It was about three and a half feet tall and it was luminous from head to toe, like aluminum foil would [glow] with a light cast on it in the dark—a glow like that."

The being stood still for a moment, "like it was debating whether to come back into the yard or go back into the woods." Suddenly *three more identical-looking figures appeared*, apparently from the vicinity of the house immediately next door. They joined the first and then the four ran single file into the woods.

"Their bodies were erect," recalled the witness, who insists upon anonymity. "They all ran stiff legged, like they were on their heels—like the feet were pointed up . . . Everything [about their bodies] was pretty well-proportioned . . . Everything was covered . . . it looked like it was all one piece from head to toe and it was all the same color . . . The outfit was silver, but it gave off a white glow . . . They lit up the path as they went. They had nothing in their hands that I could tell. But they gave off a glow . . ."

"Everything was so quiet out there—you didn't hear a twig break, you

didn't hear anything. It was just unusual . . . It was so quiet that, even with the window closed, with the four of them going into the woods, they would have rattled enough branches and leaves on the ground to make noise and they *didn't* make any noise."

The witness was so terrified that, despite her intense curiosity, she forced herself to go back to bed. She was afraid that if the first being caught her staring at him he and the others might come into the house and take her away.

An example of the second type of ufonaut encounter, the abduction, appears in this issue of UFO REPORT (see my article "The Sandy Larson Contact: UFO Abduction in North Dakota"). Since then another case from that same month, August 1975, has come to

" . . . That roly-poly one seemed to be having the time of his life, bouncing up and down like that. He looked like the astronauts looked when they jumped on the Moon, only he seemed to have more control over his movements than they did . . ."

light and is being investigated by the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization. So far the only published account has been in the *National Enquirer* (May 11, 1976), which describes the supposed experience of Air Force Sgt. Charles Moody, who claims to have been taken aboard a UFO in the New Mexican desert during the early morning hours of August 14th. Once inside, the ufonauts (who bore an amazing resemblance to those Travis Walton encountered 250 miles away on November 5th), showed him the interior of the craft and told him they would make themselves known to the world during the summer of 1976.

Our next story is a bizarre contact case which we are unable to evaluate solely on the basis of the newspaper

article (*Anaheim Bulletin*, Anaheim, Calif., Feb. 13, 1976) which so far is the only published account. Fortunately the case is being investigated by Alvin Lawson and his group of California ufologists, who among other things are subjecting the witness to hypnotic regression, and when their report is available, it will be summarized in this column.

The main figure in the tale is 32-year-old Brian Scott, a Garden Grove, Calif., draftsman and father of two. Scott claims that his contacts with ufonauts began on his 16th birthday, Oct. 12, 1959, in the desert near Phoenix, Ariz. Coming home from a birthday party, he saw a ball of light hovering over his dog, which was running in circles and jumping at the object.

"The ball was oval shape," Scott recalls, "semisolid with it becoming more solid toward the center. It was six to eight inches in diameter and reddish-orange. The ball of light came right at my head until it was just a few inches from my face and then it went straight up."

As it did so, strange thoughts and pictures—apparently communicated from the ball—flashed into Scott's mind.

That was the last he saw of that or any other UFO—until the evening of Mar. 14, 1971, when for some unknown reason he drove out into the desert near the Superstition Mountains outside Phoenix. Suddenly a UFO flew over him and a "pulsating, pulling feeling" *drew him upward into the object*.

There he found, much to his astonishment, a friend of his. (Perhaps a significant detail—there is an unpublished Canadian contact case which contains this same curious detail.) They were inside a small, fog-filled room, big enough for about four persons. At that point the door "shattered" silently and without an explosive flash, and four or five "very horrifying" creatures entered the room.

"They had gray skin like that of a crocodile or rhino, with a thicker patch of hide over the front torso," Scott said. "These people looked like a combination of animals and had three fingers

seeing winged serpents on the shoulders of UFO entities. Others have seen the Greek letters *Alpha*, *Kappa*, *Sigma*, and *Omega* worn in obvious emblematic significance. Still others have reported ufonauts in bright green uniforms with three, dark vertical stripes on the front, the middle stripe being the longest.

One can spend a great amount of time speculating as to the significance of these symbols and their relationship to *Homo sapiens* at this moment in Time and Space. (*Alpha*. That's the beginning. *They* were her in the Beginning! But *Omega*! That's the end! They've come to tell us that the End of the World is at hand! But wait! *Sigma* is often used to represent the Unknown. They are from the Unknown? And then there's *Kappa* . . .)

But if they come from other solar systems, other worlds, why should they be wearing emblems that would have any relationship to Earth languages or symbology?

Maybe all these symbols are deliberately distracting bits of cleverly designed window dressing. Perhaps the true message of the UFO lies in their basic shape, which is most often reported as circular. In many cases, eyewitnesses have reported seeing a cross-like appendage or a cross-shaped design over the body of the UFO. In several instances, the UFO seems almost to have been mandala-like and, like the mandala (which is often used for purposes of meditation), has precipitated in the witness a state similar to that of trance.

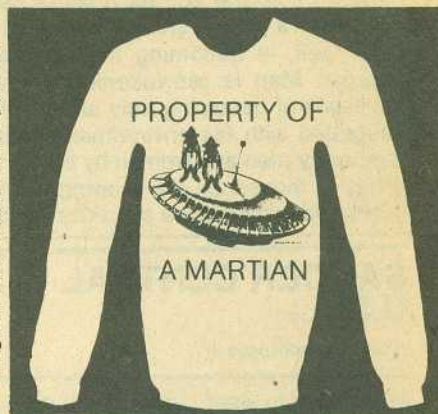
In *Ego and Archetype*, Jungian analyst Edward F. Edinger discusses Rhoda Kellog's studies of preschool art: "[Ms. Kellog] has observed that the mandala or circle image seems to be the predominant one in young children who are just learning how to draw. Initially a two-year-old with pencil or crayon just scribbles, but soon he seems to be attracted by the intersection of lines and begins to make crosses. Then the cross is enclosed by a circle and we have the basic pattern of the mandala. As the child attempts to do human figures, they first emerge as circles, contrary to all visual experiences, with the arms and legs being represented only as ray-like extensions of the circle. These studies provide clear empirical data indicating that the young child experiences the human being as a round, mandala-like structure and verify in an impressive way the psychological truth of Plato's myth of the original round man. Child therapists also find the mandala an operative, healing image in young children. All of this indicates that, symbolically speaking, the human psyche was originally round, whole, complete; in a state of oneness and self-sufficiency that is

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and a thumb kicked over to one side . . . They were seven feet tall and very bulky."

The ufonauts removed the clothing from Scott and his friend, then led them into different rooms. Squinting under the powerful light—the equivalent of "50 floodlights"—Scott was placed up against a wall. Though there were no visible bonds holding him, he could not move. Meanwhile two of the beings operated a revolving machine which seemed to be examining him. The air was very cold, "like a refrigerator."

A nine-foot-tall being approached Scott and asked telepathically, "Why are you afraid?" The ufonaut answered Scott's questions even before he could speak them. Scott was sure he (or it) was reading his mind.

The witness was then transported mentally to a strange realm where scores of similar beings walked about through jagged peaks and misty atmosphere.

At last the beings let Scott and his friend go.

On Mar. 22, 1973, the ufonauts returned to repeat much of what they had done two years earlier. This time Scott found a pair of boots which had been missing ever since the earlier incident. He also saw, for the first time, a pale, slender being Scott calls "the host." Scott began to suspect that not only were the ufonauts studying him but in some way they were *educating* him as well.

Scott's next encounter occurred on Oct. 25, 1973, as he and a woman friend were driving in the hills near the Bellehurst section of Buena Park, Calif. He was taken aboard the UFO and subjected to some kind of "educational process." The experience so traumatized his companion, Scott claims, that she has since become a religious fanatic.

Since then Scott has entered UFOs on two other occasions—on Nov. 21, 1975, and Dec. 22, 1975. On the first of these dates he was gone for 27 hours.

After his December 22nd contact-abduction the witness has gone into periodic trance states, during which he produces complex drawings and writings.

The whole incredible story came to the attention of the *Anaheim Bulletin* when on Feb. 12, 1976, Scott brought his two-year-old daughter Vicki to the Fountain Valley Community Hospital and complained of "balls of light" plaguing his family. He said that two days before, Vicki had twice been transported from inside the house to the back yard by a strange light. Enraged, Scott had swung at the thing with a

broom but had been thrown back by a powerful force.

Hospital officials treated Vicki for dehydration and kept her overnight. Earlier in the week paramedics had treated Scott's 17-year-old sister-in-law for hyperventilation, apparently caused by excessive fear. Family members and friends also say they have seen strange phenomena in the Scotts's back yard and some of them will no longer go near the place.

There actually is a fourth type of encounter—one that is outside the usual pattern and not easy to classify. In this fourth category we have what might be called the "aliens-in-our-midst" tales (I don't particularly like the word "aliens" even though UFO writers and researchers seem to be using it more and more these days. My own feeling is that the expression is right out of science fiction and it implies the ufonauts are extraterrestrials, which

... They had a gray skin like that of a crocodile or a rhino, with a thicker patch of hide over the front torso. These people looked like a combination of animals and had three fingers and a thumb kicked over to one side . . ."

may or may not be the case—we simply don't know at this stage. Nonetheless I use the term here in the sense that these beings are "alien" to our conventional day-to-day experience.) The persistent men in black reports, for example, might be included in this group. But some stories make the MIB encounters sound tame by comparison—such as the one which a Wisconsin couple related to Carol Wahlen of the *West Allis [Wis.] Post* (Mar. 8, 1976).

The incident supposedly occurred in Wauwatosa on Nov. 10, 1975, and the two "victims" were Anne and Peter E—Peter, who is a retired construction foreman, and his wife heard the doorbell ring that evening at 7:50. When Anne got up to answer it, she peeped through the curtained window on the door—and got the shock of her life.

The caller was a strangely-dressed man of average height holding a five-foot-long white cane. He was wearing something that looked like a straw hat, except that the brim was unusually narrow. Tufts of hair stuck out from either side of the hat. The skin on his face looked like "smoked meat," as

Peter later described it. His mouth was a small puckered opening no bigger than a dime. His chin was very pointed.

Stunned, Anne locked the screen door and asked, "Yes?" The stranger made no reply and remained silent when she queried him again. Anne turned to Peter and said, "Come here. He doesn't talk."

Peter came to the door, gawked at the figure and wondered if he wasn't "something left over from trick or treat." He unlocked the screen to get a better look, then grabbed at the visitor, thinking he was a prankster. The visitor raised his staff and rapped it on the sidewalk. Three "clicking" sounds emanated from the cane and then, in Peter's words, "He didn't step back or jump back. He just drifted away from me."

While Peter struggled to comprehend what was going on, he noticed four similar beings out on the lawn and street.

"They were all dressed alike and they all carried a white staff in their left hands," he said. "One of them was heavier than the rest. He was out in the middle of the street. He was rapping his staff on the asphalt and floating two to three feet above the ground each time it clicked. The staff seemed to be some kind of an energy stick. That roly-poly one seemed to be having the time of his life, bouncing up and down like that. He looked like the astronauts looked when they jumped on the moon, only he seemed to have more control over his movements than they did."

Of the other three, Peter said, "Their feet were making walking motions but they were two or three inches above the ground." They looked deformed—"like oversized gnomes"—with clawed, arthritic-appearing hands and bent, bowed legs.

"As I leaned out," he went on, "Anne grabbed hold of the suspenders on my overalls and pulled. When she got me back inside, I must have gone into a state of shock. I know I could describe exactly what they looked like when I was leaning out the door, but once I was inside the house, I couldn't remember much about their faces or dress."

Peter collapsed into a chair and Anne looked out the window. "I could see only three of them," she said. "The one that had been at the door was drifting across the lawn. He turned and raised his hand to me. It wasn't a clenched fist, just kind of bent. That's how all their hands were naturally."

The couple called the Wauwatosa police, who investigated but found nothing. Peter and Anne had the distinct impression that the officers thought they were crazy. ★

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In my opinion there are certain factors that contribute to old age. First, there is radioactivity. A certain amount comes to us constantly from the rays of the sun. That is one reason why excessive exposure to the sun's rays can be harmful.

Secondly, there is man-made "time." We are always counting the years. You think to yourself, "Tomorrow I will be 65. Oh well, I've probably got another 10 years if I'm lucky." I am sure this is another factor contributing toward the disease known as "old age." We present to ourselves all those negative thoughts which are cumulative throughout our lives, especially after what is termed "middle age."

It could be that our ufonauts do not have a time system as we do, but instead just live for each day;

6) Extrasensory Abilities.

On this I would be prepared to place a bet like Mrs. Norman. My wager would not be concerned with the ufonauts landing, but as to whether they had extrasensory powers (ESP). I would bet my bottom dollar that they did possess and use them extensively.

By ESP powers, I mean teleportation, levitation, clairvoyance, telekinesis, and telepathy, to name a few.

These abilities lie, for the most part, latent but unused in most of us, although an increasing number of people are beginning to use them again. Since the Age of Materialism arrived, coupled with modern methods of communication such as the telephone, cable, telex, and so on, a great many of us have lost these powers, albeit only temporarily.

On the other hand, these particular ufonauts may have had the ability to use these powers in their fullest sense for hundreds, if not thousands of years, due to the way of life they lead.

Naturally, the six points I have dealt with to some extent about the ufonauts are purely speculative, and I want to make that very clear. Nevertheless, I hope that what has been discussed here will provide some food for thought.

Obviously, there are many other points that could have also been raised. Maybe some of UFO REPORT's readers will carry this further in the Messages column.

Peter Hurkos predicted the ufonauts would land within 19 to 22 months. His interview with UFO REPORT was published in the Winter '75 issue, and I do not know how long before publication the interview took place. It is interesting that a scientist mentioned in the English press recently forecast that "the California earthquake" would take place within a year.

Now, Mrs. Norman predicts the UFOs will land openly before autumn. As previously stated, I do not know the date of the Hurkos interview, but there does seem to be a slight difference in the timing of the two predictions. This is something that I have often noted with psychics. I am wondering if this has anything to do with something that I mentioned earlier. In short that "time" as we know it, is a man-made measurement. And that it is difficult for messages coming through to psychics from either the spirit world or from extraterrestrial sources, where possibly they do not measure time as we do, to be exactly pinpointed by month or year.

However, my own hunch about the entire matter was written some time before the Hurkos and Norman predictions were published. And it looks as if we will not have to wait much longer.

Meanwhile, it seems that in the very short time available everything possible should be done to prepare the public. Over the years many UFO groups and magazines, and to a great extent UFO REPORT with its large circulation, have been bringing the UFO subject to the attention of more and more people. However, now it would seem imperative to alert the general public to the possibility of imminent UFO landings for a definite purpose. I do not think there is the possibility of panic such as occurred when Orson Welles broadcast H.G. Wells's *War of the Worlds* back in the late 1930s. At that time there was a massive exodus by people from their

homes thinking there was a Martian invasion underway! And it took considerable time to get all those good folk back home again reassured there was no invasion but just a very realistic radio program that had caused them to leave home with their families and belongings.

Now, a very large number of people have at least heard about UFOs, and I understand that worldwide the number of people who have actually sighted UFOs is astronomical and now runs into millions after more than 30 years of intensive UFO activity.

It is now becoming increasingly clear that governments are aware of the reality of the UFOs. An obvious example that comes to mind is the large number of UFO broadcasts—39 to be exact—by the French radio station, *France-Inter*, in the spring of 1974, including an interview with the then French Minister of Defense, Robert Galley. The Minister admitted that UFOs existed but that they did not know all the answers.

In my view there should be as many UFO programs as possible before this autumn on both radio and TV in the U.S., England, France, and other countries, to not only educate the public about UFOs but to bring home to them the strong possibility of imminent open landings by ufonauts.

Many leading ufologists have contacts with newspapers, radio, and TV. I think we should all make a concerted effort to communicate with the public through these channels. Even if my hunch turns out to be mistaken, as well as the predictions of Peter Hurkos and Mrs. Norman, then it still would have been worthwhile to promote discussions about the UFOs through the media, for the time will come when space civilizations will make contact with us.

Personally, I do not think we will have to wait long. It will be interesting to know from what point of the star-studded skies our visitors will come. We may soon know the answer. ★

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